



Oyster River High School, Durham N.H. 03824

DECEMBER 13, 1990

Issue 2



The cast of "Cheaper by the Dozen," produced on November 16, 17, and 18, poses on the set of the play with the director, Mr. Tappan

Drama Program Survey: Mixed Student Reactions

by Nathan Lapierre

The Oyster River High School Drama Program is plagued by several problems including minimal funding, limited space, few participants, and many misconceptions.

"Cheaper By the Dozen," this year's fall play, exemplifies the problems, in the drama department today. The drama fund began in September at \$11, but \$500 was later required for payment of royalties. A \$700 grant from Oyster River Educational Workshop was put towards the repair of the light board and purchase of materials for scene flats. Eight of the light bulbs had to be replaced. These special tungsten halogen lamps cost \$37.50 apiece, leaving quite a dent in the spending money (\$300). Each bulb has a lifespan of 15 operating hours, which we hope is equal to the length of the three

plays and Senior Follies, when the lights are needed," comments drama director, Mr. Tappan. Altogether, approximately \$1200 was spent during "Cheaper By The Dozen" by opening night. "Maybe, if we're lucky," said Tappan, "we cleared \$300 which will be put toward productions later this year."

Drama rehearsals and productions take place in the stage area. Unfortunately, other groups need the use of the stage and cafeteria. If something else has to take place in the stage area, the scene flats and props need to be put away or removed, and therefore rehearsals are forced to be cancelled. During "Cheaper By the Dozen," three rehearsals were called off for other purposes: for senior portraits and

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YEAR-ROUND SCHOOL PLAN PROPOSED TO OYSTER RIVER SCHOOL BOARD

by Christopher B. Taube

The Oyster River School Board voted unanimously to go forward with the study of year-round school. This is the latest of the three proposals that have been made to deal with the projected overcrowding, but according to the Superintendent, John Powers, the board needs to review each one before there is a final decision.

The need for a change comes as a result of the projected overpopulation of the Oyster River School system. By the year 1996 our high school, according to a recent study, will exceed its maximum of 603 students by fifty. The three proposals that the school board are now considering are a new school, an addition to the current school, and the newest proposal the year-round school plan.

William Skinner, head of the study committee, will finish his proposal by February. It will be brought before the Board in early March. Mr. Skinner said he wants the study to be

completed, and "The taxpayers to look at the proposal before any additional classroom space is provided to the district."

Mr. Skinner used the analogy of an expensive car such as a Jaguar to illustrate the idea of using the school year round. "It is like having a Jaguar and financing and insuring it for 12 months and using it only for 9 months. In effect that's what the taxpayers are doing with the district. By utilizing the school district all 12 months, we should be getting our money's worth."

The year-round school plan will involve what is called a "45-15 multi-track plan," according to John Powers. This will break the population into four groups of students that follow a "track" or school year plan. One of the tracks will have their first quarter beginning on July first and running for the normal forty-five day quarter. They will then have fifteen days of vacation and return for their second quarter which will bring them up to Christmas time. They will

have their normal Christmas break and then an additional fifteen day break. This will continue for the next two quarters which will bring them back to July first. The students will still go to school for the required 180 days. This plan will make it so there is only seventy-five percent of the student population at the school at one given time.

There are many advantages and disadvantages to this program, according to John Powers, and they need to be addressed. One of the main advantages is that it will prevent the need for a new high school, and there will be no concern for overcrowding. This plan will also allow for greater retention of material over the year. No information will be lost over a two-month summer vacation.

The problem is that students would not be able to take part in summer activities about which sophomore Nahanni Rous said, "I do

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Parking Plan Goes Into Effect

by Angela Twombly

Parking stickers were issued to tuition students and seniors on Nov 1, and Nov 2, to allow them privilege of parking in the front lot.

The Parking Policy allows one sticker per person. So far 54 stickers have been given out. Students without stickers who park in the front lot instead of along Coe Drive will, on the first offense, be asked to move their car. On the second offense, they will receive a

detention, and on the third offense, the car will be towed at the owner's expense.

Student Council members have been monitoring the lot in the early morning. Violations are reported to Assistant Principal Ms. Winterbottom and "appropriate actions" are then taken by the administration. A list of tuition students and seniors holding stickers is kept in the front office.

Senior John Cirillo, one of 5 student coun-

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O.R.H.S. PEER OUTREACH PROGRAM REACHES OUT

by Nathan Lapierre

Peer Outreach, a student-run counseling program that has been successful in other schools, is now operating at O.R.H.S. Fifteen students were nominated by their classmates and teachers last year for the program.

Members of Peer Outreach are: seniors Melissa Geeslin, Jeff Bibbo, Stephanie Chasteen and Toby Mautz; juniors Brandon Ammann, Brian Killough and Jen Olson; and sophomores Jamie Archie, Sarla DeGeorge, Chris Jerard, Jill Shapiro and Nahanni Rous. The student are supervised by Mrs. Houseman and Mrs. Tagliaferro.

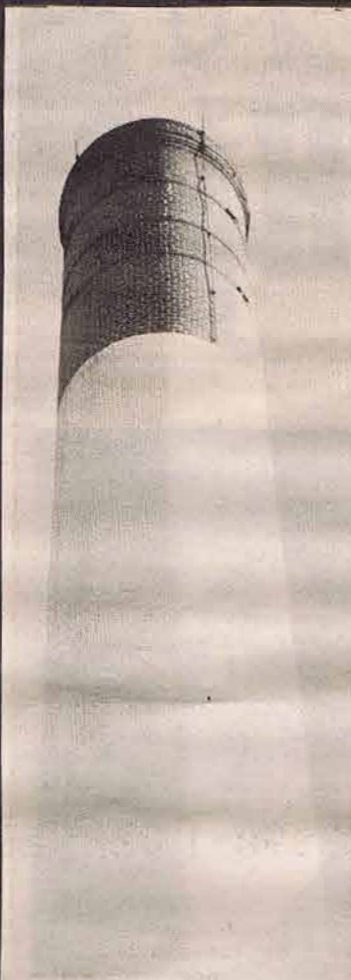
Peer Outreach is available seven periods a day in the guidance office. "Out-Reachers," as the student helpers refer to themselves, spend their free periods in the Outreach room, offering their services "to anyone wishing to seek student help with academic or social problems," explained Houseman. The fifteen stu-

dents took part in week long training camp last summer where they learned the important skills of group leadership, problem solving, patience and listening skills.

Tagliaferro believes that the program has helped "in a quiet way, giving students support and helping them through bad days." Peer Outreach has had "a good effect on new comers, making them feel welcome, find friends" and solve minor crises.

Senior Geeslin comments "Peer Outreach has started out fairly well, but there is room for improvement." Mautz adds, "Not too many people know we're down here, when more students realize the Out-Reachers are waiting for students to help, we will solve a lot of problems."

Tagliaferro commented that the "group as a whole has had excellent enthusiasm, although they were discouraged at the beginning" because of the slow start.



Pollution is among concerns of E.A.R.

EAR: Continues Despite Problems

by Mark Allen

EAR, (Environmental Awareness and Research) got off to a strong start this fall with activities such as participating in a beach cleanup and starting a program, the goal of which is to get students to carpool.

The elected officers this year are President Josh Stamper, Vice President Heather Armitage, Secretaries Kyle Downey and Briana Campbell, and Treasurer Hilary McHone.

Presently, EAR has experienced a declining and fluctuating attendance at meetings. Projects such as creating a bulletin board, which is designed to increase awareness, have proved slow in the making. At long-last, the bulletin board has made a recent appearance in the front hall beside the gym.

When asked why EAR is having so many problems, Stamper said "The group isn't going to happen if the basis of it is simply meeting after school every week to discuss that there is definitely a problem, which is basically

what we are doing." Stamper went on to say, "People have to realize that the environment is a problem more than just an hour after school. We can't wait for meetings to start."

The individual can change things." The message here is that the change has to come from the people. Member Jessica Thibault commented, "I think the group is doing well, all things considered. It takes a long time for organizations like this to get going. We have already talked to Mrs. Winterbottom about being in charge of the recycling bins and things look very good."

Recently the group split into committees to handle such topics as recycling, car pooling, bulletin board, fund-raising, and correspondence with the middle school involving their environmental efforts. With a bulletin board in the works, and plans to take over the recycling program at this school, there seems to be a light at the end of the tunnel for EAR.

Students Joining Clubs For Selfish Reasons

by Kristi Morong

"Close to 85% of the students at ORHS participate in at least one extra-curricular activity. Most participate in more than one," according to principal Ann Draper Brown. But participation in some instances may not be as high as the figures indicate.

"Lots of people came to the first few meetings," said SADD co-president Rosemary Boone, "but at least 50% of the members at the original meeting don't participate anymore, or they do, but very minimally. There were 30 members at the beginning of the year, and now we're down to about 10. Twelve or 13 show up every once in a

while."

But why would people want to be counted as members of SADD if they aren't willing to commit themselves?

"Too often people join SADD just to say they're in it, because it sounds good," according to Lori Slippery, the other co-president. "Also, people are in other clubs as well, and often think that those are more important."

But they must not think that Environmental Awareness Research (EAR) is more important, says recording secretary Briana Campbell.

"For the first few meetings," she continued, "lots of people showed up. But now, any time there's

any real work to be done, almost no one shows up. Like the beach clean-up project - I was really disappointed at the turnout."

At least 40% of the people who were in EAR at the beginning of the year participate minimally now, if at all, according to active member Ben Stamper.

"They aren't very dedicated," Campbell concluded.

Speaking about students' semi-involvement in activities, English teacher and drama director Richard Tappan commented, "In recent years, I've encountered many students who admit that their involvement in certain clubs or activities was minimal and was mainly in order

to create an impressive list for college admissions."

"I'd like to think we'd check on that sort of thing," stated guidance counselor Mr. Hall, "but I can't say that we do 100% of the time. Although I can't always, I try to speak to the leaders of the groups that are on the students' cards. Could it (credit despite lack of participation) happen? Maybe it could, maybe it couldn't," he continued. "I'm not saying this system is perfect, but we're doing the best we can."

The high degree of pressure put on students to do well may be the reason they resort to such measures, said sophomore Liz Firczuk.

"The stress put on a high-schooler to become

a well-rounded person before he or she applies to college is astronomical," she continued. "Many people think you should do a sport, be in a play each year, and belong to a club to get into college, when really it's hard enough just to keep up with the mandatory academic side of school."

But do the colleges really look closely enough at the activities for it to be worth taking the risk of being dishonest?

"I doubt very much that this activity card exaggeration has had an influence in college admissions in very many cases," replied Mr. Tappan, "but I'd feel better if students were straight-forward and honest."

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TAXPAYER'S ASSOCIATION DEMANDS 5% BUDGET CUT

by Nathan Lapierre
The Oyster River School Board assembled to discuss the proposed 1991-92 \$11.7 million budget on the evening of December 5, in the O.R. Elementary Cafeteria. The Board was presented two petitions: one from the O.R. Taxpayers Association and one from the students of Oyster River High.

Bob McCarthy, chairman of the Taxpayers Association, presented a petition signed by 1145 residents of Durham, Lee and Madbury supporting a budget cut. McCarthy presented the desired cut "at least 5%" of the 1990-91 adopted budget, which would actually be a 13.7% cut from the proposed 1991-92 budget.

Sarah Whitten, the Board's student representative, presented another petition signed by about 150 high school students that felt a 5% budget cut would "threaten the quality of our education."

The School Board discussed proposed

1991-92 budgets for five different accounts: debt service (\$604,651), general expenses (\$172,129), the school lunch program (\$26,754), transportation (\$631,062) and plant improvements (\$149,197), which drew the most discussion. The Board voted unanimously to table the accounts until a subcommittee of the Board is set up to tour the buildings and inspect the proposed project areas.

The 1991-92 proposed budget for the high school plant improvements is \$72,377, an 8.39% decrease from the 1990-91 budget of \$79,005. The tentatively approved improvements include \$2400 to construct storage in the Industrial Arts area, \$8000 to add on to the maintenance/athletic equipment storage shed, \$2000 to add heat/smoke detectors, \$900 to replace carpeting in the principal's office, \$2600 to install additional intrusion alarm elements, \$10,300 to complete roof replacement over the library, and \$46,117 to remove and replace asbestos ceiling tile.

LANGUAGE CLUBS HOLD HALLOWEEN PARTY

By Jessica Thibault
From gay lumberjacks to siamese twins and flashers, costumes were colorful and original at the French and Spanish Club Halloween Party. Orange and black balloons and crepe paper decorated the doorways and cobwebs hung in the corners. Approximately 50 students went to the halloween party, open to French and Spanish students, held at Jenna McNeill's house on Thurs, Nov 1. Language teachers Mrs. Schaeffer, Miss Smith, and Mr. Lord judged costumes and prizes were awarded. The award for funniest costume went to Owain Harris and Ben Stamper who went as Kitchen Utensil Man and his

sidekick Whisk Man. Carlos Bombin from Spain received the most original award for his Dick Tracy costume and Daniel Mikusik from Czechoslovakia, who was dressed as the mask of the Red Death, was chosen for the scariest.

The night began with a fast-paced game of charades, organized by French Club Secretary McNeill and Spanish and French Club Presidents Angelica Diaz and Sarah Jones.

After food and drinks everyone split into two groups to play pin-the-nose-on-the-pumpkin and pin-the-tail-on-the-bunny. Jessica Surdam and Dan Gault were the lucky prize-winners.

"The party was fun," commented Bombin. "I

had a great time," said sophomore Margot Anderson. Surdam said, "I thought the party was a good way to get together and have fun even if you're not in one of the clubs."

Language clubs usually hold activities once a month which often include foreign students and others who aren't in the clubs. The purpose is to get more students involved. "Even if you aren't a member, you can still have fun with the clubs," said Spanish Club Treasurer Jon Cabral.

Upcoming activities include the Christmas Party at Poco Diablo on Friday, December 14. Like the Halloween party, it is open to all Spanish students who wish to go.

1990-1 ORHS CHEERLEADERS DEBUT THEIR 'STUFF'

By: Ben Hudson

On Tuesday the 11th, the new O.R.H.S. cheerleaders strutted their stuff at the 1st Boys' basketball game, proving to all that O.R. still has spirit.

For the last three years Oyster River has had a lack of enthusiasm for the sport of cheering. This year all of that has changed. One reason for the tremendous outcome this year is the new cheering coaches Mrs. Provencher and Mrs. Tagliaferro. "It is easier trying out for a team when the coaches are people that are known more around school," said Mrs. Tagliaferro. "I was overwhelmed at the response we got to the forming of a new cheerleading team... the girls are a great joy to work with, they're showing great enthusiasm and dedication," added Mrs. Provencher.

The last month and a half have been nothing but hard work for the



twelve bouncing bobcats and Tuesday night all that hard work showed. "They were awesome, it made me proud... they looked really good out there and there timing was excellent!" commented Toby Mautz and Chris Taube respectively.

Captain Audrey Graves, Andrea Collins, Ruth Bristol, and

Quincy Souza were the only cheerleaders who had previous cheering experience, the others were a combination of the raw talented, dancers, and gymnasts all brought together to put their talents into the spirit of the school. Audrey included, "the more fan support we get, the better the year will be (spirit wise)."

"Attitude is a big plus, the schools response has been really positive, as well as everyone on the team... we all get along great, the variety is also really good" noted Andrea.

The future for cheerleading is looking up. Upcoming events include: the christmas tournament in portsmouth, a pep rally on January 4th, and competitions in February and April.

"The squad" wishes to thank Mrs. Provencher and Mrs. Tagliaferro for all their hard work and dedication in getting the team together.

TWO O.R. STUDENTS HOSPITALIZED DURING SOPHOMORE DANCE

by Gabe Wallman

Slam dancing and alcohol consumption sent two ORHS students to the hospital during the Sophomore class video dance on November 9.

Sophomore Chuck Bryon fractured his nose as the result of an accident which occurred during a Slam Dance. Bryon was crossing the dance floor as

he was hit from behind and knocked to the floor. In an attempt to get up, his head was slammed face first into the floor. "As far as I know," Chuck says, "someone very big fell on my head. I got up and went to the bathroom and tried to clean off the blood. there was a lot of it."

Chuck's parents then arrived and transported

him to the Exeter hospital. "At that time, "Chuck says, "I found out my nose had been fractured at the bridge and the cartilage shattered."

On the incident, Sophomore class advisor Mrs. Hopkins says, "Unless you are there right when the slam dancing begins anything can happen. When Bryon was also asked about the incident he replied, "Accidents are bound to happen and I don't think anyone was misbehaving."

In a separate incident at the dance, a 9th grade girl was sent to the hospital due to excessive alcohol consumption. On the incident Hopkins said, "It's too bad that there was experimenting with alcohol, but it's

a good thing we found her as early as we did."

In other news, ninth grade and sophomore class officers have several trips planned in the coming months in an attempt to form class unity.

Sophomore class officers have planned a trip to the Works on January 16. They hope to fit in a couple of ski trips between now and then. Also, they are looking for concerts that the class would like. Sophomore class president Ian Duncan said, "We are starting to get money in the budget to make things such as ski trips cheaper."

The ninth grade class officers have their dance scheduled for December 14. They

are also planning a ski trip and a trip to see the Bruins in January.

When asked how he feels about the class activities so far, Tucker Katz commented, "What activities? "George Taggart agreed and said "I'm disappointed that there haven't been too many activities," but he added, "It's cool we're going skiing."

Seth Deforest a 9th grade class officer feels that it is not all their fault that there haven't been too many activities and says, "Our class has never had good spirit." Class advisor Mrs. Abbott speaking of planning activities said, "It takes time for the officers to get used to the system."

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EDITORIAL

Oyster River's seven-point grading system has been a source of constant agony for the students in the school. Although colleges consider the grading scale when reviewing transcripts, lower grades sometimes contribute to lower self-esteem.

Under the seven-point system, an B+ is a C+ on a ten point scale it's a solid B. Sixty-nine is failing on the seven-point scale, while it is only a D+ on the ten point. The seven-point scale has been in effect "since the school (ORHS) has been in existence" said Assistant Vice Principal, Mr. Shapiro. It was implemented by the school board and guidance associates.

Some faculty members have said that one objective of the seven-point scale has been to make the students more competitive. Yet, students have often been criticized for being overcompetitive and concerned only with their grades. The quality of work at Oyster River is such that students must work harder to get an A than they do in other high schools. This, in addition to the seven-point scale, may cause the students to be concerned about grades.

It has been suggested that 85% of students who transfer out of ORHS do so because of the seven-point scale. A student from California transferred to Oyster River. She was a strong B student and came to Oyster River to finish her education and proceed into a competitive college. Drastically, her grades dropped to C's making her competitive colleges more of a dream than a reality. Her mother wrote a letter to the school board describing her dislike of the seven-point scale and how it hurt her daughter's "self-image." The student eventually withdrew from the school.

Mr. Stoykovich has been teaching math at ORHS for 20 years and currently uses the ten-point scale for all his classes. He feels "parents and students understand a ten-point scale much more." The ten-point scale intervals are easier to work with and follow. Mr. Stoykovich also feels "the seven-point scale sends the wrong message that OR is harder and the teachers' expectations are higher than other public schools."

Mr. Shapiro feels the greatest flaw in the seven-point scale "is that the middle range should be broader. The C should have most of the bulk." Other faculty members have expressed unhappiness with the scale, and there seems to be no concrete reason for its use. We, as students, should not be victims of the system just because of tradition.

Student Privacy: Do Not Disturb!

by Lance Waterfield

I don't smoke. I don't mind people who do smoke. I do mind smoke in the bathroom. More than I mind smoke in the bathroom though, I mind faculty members poking their heads in to make sure I'm not smoking—particularly when these people are of a sex not matching the little picture on the door (when we used to have doors). Going to the bathroom is a private thing. I'm sorry if some people go into the bathroom and smoke, but many of us are just going to relieve our bladders. Back off—let me go in peace.

Now not only do I have to cope with unexpected visitors while relieving myself, I also get to have an unobstructed view of the hall while zipping my fly. Thank God they got rid of that bothersome door—it made it so difficult to hold a conversation with someone outside. What next, security cameras so the administration can make home-porno films (I can just see it now—tape #37 "Lance the Luscious Lothario").

Apparently certain individuals feel that any student activities are up for their personal prosecution and judgement. During one third period study in the early part of this school year a teacher falsely accused me of

smoking marijuana. It wasn't me but that doesn't matter, I was probably the loudest person in the area that the smell of pot was strongest (the cafeteria) so it was obviously I who was smoking it—yeah, right. And then in a display of this person's concern for me she went and told the nurse that I might need help after I foolishly gave her my true name.

I have a few things I would like to say to address this issue. First of all it's really none of your business what I choose to do with my life if I don't even know who you are. Maybe if you were a friend or a well known teacher I could accept your counsel. Through high school we are taught to use our teachers as mentors but if I don't know this person I'm only going to see them as an enemy. These unknown people who try to control my life are like those people who wave at you to slow down when you drive by them too fast—let the police give me my ticket. And another thing, try talking to me instead of at me. How about asking me if I was the one smoking marijuana instead of telling me I was? Never mind the fact that it wasn't me—you still invaded my privacy by

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YEAR-ROUND SCHOOL? GIVE US A BREAK

by Tim Myers

When most of the students at O.R.H.S. hear the term "Year Round School," they shudder. The idea of going to school the entire year without the benefit of a summer vacation to most students is insane. And it is. But that's not what Year Round School means.

Year Round school is the idea of having students going to school at various points during the year to avoid space problems due to future enrollment increases. The student body would be cut into four groups who would go to school in staggered sessions so that at any one time there would only be 75% of the student body in school. Students would still only go to school for 180 days during the year but with two week

vacations at different intervals. In these terms it isn't so bad. But is the program worth it?

If this program happened, there would be a vacation between each quarter for each group, and no two month summer vacation would occur. This one aspect of year round school makes the entire program negative for the students in many respects. One advantage to the two month break is the fact a job can be taken by many students. Over the summer many students earn their spending money for the school year. Some even have to help support their families as well as themselves. If the year Round School program took place, students would have a hard time finding employers to give them steady

work for fifteen days every forty five days. Also, school isn't the only place in the entire universe people can learn things. Many people learn extremely valuable things from the places they work. With Year Round School, the O.R.H.S. job market would fall damagingly low.

Many students attend various camps and seminars over the summer as well, such as the St. Paul's six week advanced studies program. These are additional places that students can learn things just as valuable as school lessons. Teachers also attend many valuable seminars over the summer that help them to better teach their students. Another negative aspect of Year Round School is that over the summer, no homework is

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SEN. MAILBOXES, USED OR ABUSED?

by Glenn Watt

Seniors at Oyster River have few privileges which they hold dear to themselves. One is senior parking which is an issue many seniors become defensive and riled up about. A new senior privilege is their mailboxes which this year have been found to be almost completely useless.

The mailboxes would be hard not to notice unless you're a new student or you're a 9th grader. They are those small, black, rectangular boxes hanging down by Mr. Stoykovich's and Mrs. Schaeffer's rooms. "They're there to send messages to the seniors as a courtesy," said Mrs. Weeks. Quite a courtesy, considering the mailboxes cost the school \$260.

The idea of the mailboxes can be credited to Ms. Brown. She wanted to "kill the

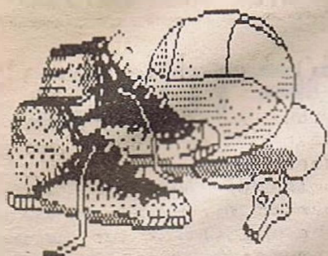
P.A. system" because she felt it was a "constant irritant" and "nobody listened to it." Mr. Knight also feels the mailboxes were a good idea even though he personally finds no use for them as a teacher.

In the beginning of the year, some seniors found those little, black wonders to be a creative way to pass notes to their friends. But the novelty soon wore off and only occasional notes are passed through the little senior post office.

"The mailboxes just seem to be used for trash cans. People throw gum, paper and smashed chips into them," stated senior Kevin Hahn who did find one use by decorating his name tag with satanic symbolism.

Some students, on

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SPORTS



BOYS' BASKETBALL TAKES A RUN AT CLASS "I" TITLE

by Andrea Collins

Boys Varsity basketball is heading into the season with an inexperienced team. There are five seniors and six juniors, but only two players have seen consistent action in a Varsity game. As a result, the two seniors, Evan Wallman and Erik Halldorson, have emerged as prominent team leaders, according to teammate Sam Poole.

However the team has many advantages, as were explained by starter Scott Poteet. He explained that the inexperience would wear off, and that they had a team that works well together and a coach that is very supportive. He also stated that the general ability level is excellent. The team's cohes-

ion was expressed by senior Sam Poole when he stated, "I'm impressed with how quickly the team gelled."

Team members described themselves and their peers positively. Scott Poteet is seen as a hard worker, Dave Madson as having the best attitude, Kurt Pearsall is a hearty rebounder who can hold his own on the boards, and Bryan Rutland is a consistently strong shooter. Eric Tyler, a newcomer to O.R.H.S. basketball, shows considerable talent, according to Halldorson. The juniors are all exceptional players, and it is common knowledge that a reliable second string is needed for any championship team. Nathan Weeks is a fine shooter, Graham Duncan is a good baseline shooter, Kevin



Coach Maynard planning out strategy during the Dover scrimmage

Malley has good ball handling skills and David Delude is an aggressive rebounder. Russ DeForest is coming back from injury and sickness, but teammate Evan Wallman stated

that "when healthy, he should prove to be an all-around good player, with incredible passing ability."

The players also agree that the coaching is first-rate, as ex-

pressed by Poole, "Maynard gives us the confidence we need." They are all looking forward to the season with anticipation and high hopes. The boys' next game is home on December 14.

OR GIRLS' B-BALL LOOKS TO IMPROVE IN 1990-1

by Gabe Wallman

The Oyster River Girls' basketball team had a successful beginning to the 1990-91 basketball season by winning the first three games. They defeated Mt. St. Mary twice as well as Timberlane.

A combination of good defense from Oyster River and sloppy play by Mt. St. Mary, the Bobcats jumped out to an early 11-0 lead and they never looked back. The first Mt. St. Mary score didn't come until there were three and a half minutes left in the first quarter.

The Bobcats contin-

ued to distance themselves from Mt. St. Mary throughout the first half.

In the second half it was more of the same for O.R.. They maintained their defensive intensity and they would not allow Mt. St. Mary back into the game as they won with relative ease running away with a 66-38 victory. When asked the reason for O.R. victory sophomore Jen Friel replied, "We worked hard, and came out to play. Mt. St. Mary came out flat and we took advantage of it."

Sophomore Jen Friel

and senior Brenda Worden lead the team for Oyster River with 25 and 15 points respectively. The Bobcats also received a strong performance from sophomore Stefany Shaheen with 10 points and 5 rebounds.

The Bobcats then defeated Timberlane 56 to 48. Leading the Bobcats in scoring were sophomores Stefany Shaheen with 10 points and Holly MacKay with 9 points.

Following the Timberlane game the Bobcats traveled to Mt. St. Mary. They came

from behind to win 48-47 in overtime.

Trailing by three points with under a minute to go sophomore Jen Friel hit a three pointer to send the game into overtime.

The Bobcats had a successful preseason in preparation for the regular season. They have been competitive in the majority of their scrimmages. Bobcat Coach Cathy Baker has seen several positive aspects to the team so far. She says, "They have a good attitude considering their 1-17 record last year. They are working hard and are concentrating on what they must do." She also believes, how-

ever there is still room for improvement. She says, "We have to be more patient and realize that the program will not change overnight."

Although the girls basketball program will not change overnight the players feel they have reason to believe

that they will have a successful season. Senior Brenda Worden thinks that first year Coach Baker will have a lot to do with it and said, "She is very dedicated, and sees coaching as a priority rather than just a part time job." She continued, "She sees us as a

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INDOOR TRACK PREVIEW

by Kristi Morong

Track has begun. Athletes are busy getting ready for meets, and are looking forward to an exciting and beneficial year.

The boys' team is training hard, preparing for their first meet on Saturday, December 15 at Hanover. Team members believe that their chances to place high in the meet are strong because they're getting an early start in training with their coach, Mr. Sczatelli.

"We've started right in with rather heavy workouts, so I think that we'll be ahead of the other schools for at least the first few meets," said track team member Tim Myers. He added that the large

number of people who signed up for track is another reason the ORHS boys' track team will succeed.

"The boys' team was like tenth in the state last year," commented team member Brendan Crill, "but this year the team's bigger, so we have a lot more scoring potential."

The girls' track team has also been training heavily, under the instruction of their new coach, Wayne Scott.

"This year we've started weight training, which is new for the girls' team," said Stephanie Chasteen. She believes that the new approach will help the team become better pre-

TRACK cont. on p. 11

SUCCESS FOR FALL SPORTS DESPITE LACK OF TITLES

by Jennifer Thompson

Even though "the fall season didn't bring any state championships, some teams still had a great season," said Oyster River Athletic Director Dave Nichols. Two sports, boys' and girls' cross-country, were Class I runners up to Hanover. The girls' soccer team "just missed the final four with a very young team." The girls' volleyball team also had a successful season, only to lose in the semi-finals. The boys' volleyball team entered the state tournament with the best overall record. Nichols mentioned these accomplishments, as well as Scott Poteet's state championship in cross-country, as the high points of the season.

Senior captain Janice Philbrook said the girls' volleyball team's season "went a lot better than I thought it would." Citing the loss of five starters as a reason for potential weakness, Philbrook said that the team rebuilt well. The season ended with the girls posting a 12-6 record. Earning all-state honors for their performances were Philbrook (first team);

Sara Weidhaas (second team); and Stefany Shaheen (honorable mention). Coach Ed Sharon mentioned that the team received "strong play from juniors Ally Limber and Mandy Tappan," who he expects to be "key cogs in the machine next year. They're sound volleyball players," he ended.

The boys' volleyball team had a "strong season" according to Mr. Nichols. Their overall record was 9-3. Nathan Lapierre said "we showed we were better than everyone else; that we could win." Lapierre claimed that junior Matt Koener was the most valuable teammate because of his "hustle...he showed he had the desire to win." Wins against Mascenic and Pinkerton were important victories, said Lapierre.

Even though the girls' soccer team missed the semifinals, three students made the All-State team: senior Sue Varholy, junior Tonya Stefanski, and sophomore Jen Friel were selected by coaches in the state for the second team. Other strong players were: juniors Erica Beck and Tory Jennison, according to Stefanski and Varholy. Games against Stevens, Derryfield, Kearsarge and Woodsville were the teams' best efforts, Varholy added. The team ended up with a stand-

ing of 11 wins and five losses.

The boys' varsity soccer team's record was 3-9-2. Senior captain John Cirillo said they went into the season with "a lot of talent, but not a lot of experience." Coach Tom Johnson said "In terms of effort we received a lot of compliments from college coaches. They (the team) kept trying to the end. Johnson credited the fact that

the team received under ten shots at the net per game to Bobby Gearwar, Jeremy Katz, and Lance Waterfield. Cirillo added that the team "played their best

game against" eventual state champions Hanover. The sub-varsity team, with a 13-8-1 record, should add to next year's varsity team. Gabe Wallman listed Tucker Katz, Chris Jerard, Josh Hardy, and John Hill as potential varsity players for the fall.

The girls' cross-country Class I meet was again a showdown between Hanover and Oyster River. An Oyster River team which returned five of last year's New England Championship team lost by a small margin. Jen Jenkins, senior cocaptain, said "The best part of our team was Carol (Gephart, the new coach). She really cared, and she treated us equally." She also stated the Granite

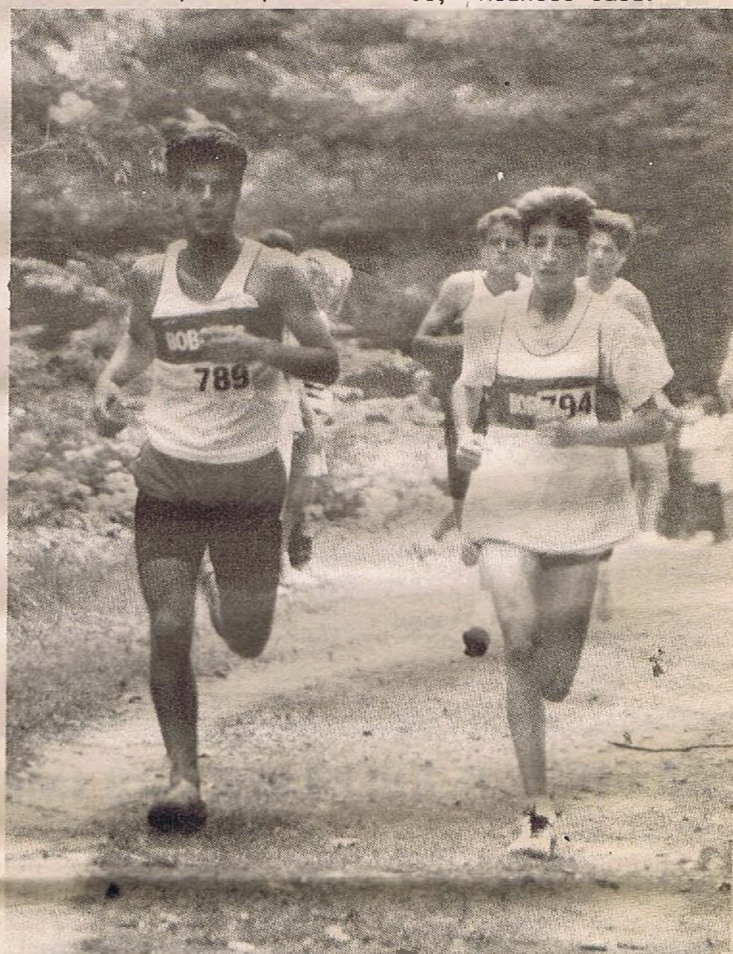
State League meet was strong, where the Bobcats placed six athletes in the top ten.

"At the beginning of the season, we were terrible, and we ended up losing (Class I) by one point, said cocaptain of the boys' cross-country team senior Brendan Crill. Coach Greg Gephart listed Crill, as well as Juniors Roberto Acosta and Scott Poteet and sophomore Russ Warren as providing strength. Poteet, who one the state title, led the team all season. "We were proud of Scott for going all the way," said sophomore runner Mark DeRocchi. Gephart named DeRocchi as well as sophomores Mike Northrop, Eric Harter, and Kyle Krouse, and junior Jamie Archie as providing back up for the team. The five runners were close throughout the season, with Northrop emerging as the number five at

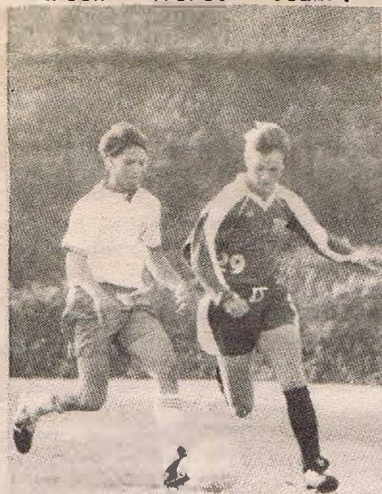
the end of the season, Gephart added.

"We could've done better. Our record didn't reflect our ability," said senior field hockey player Debbie Kline. Part of the reason for the 1-11-2 record is a lack of a sub-varsity team, Kline

added. Seniors Marnie Hylton, Sarah Whitten, and Catherine Burger consistently provided strong performances, according to Kline. There were a "number of close games--they didn't receive the success they wanted to," Nichols said.



Cross-country runners Jamie Archie and Mike Northrop compete at the Exeter Invitational



Front runner Alex Collins challenges for a loose ball

GIRLS' ALUMNI GAME: WHAT WAS THE SCORE

by Chrissy Jackson

The girls' alumnae won by one point in the last quarter at the alumnae basketball game Wednesday, November 21. Or so the scoreboard said. In actuality, the final score was 57-27, girls' varsity. The scorekeeper, Mr. Al Elwell changed the score (with permission

of the refs) with four minutes left in the last quarter to "Make things more even."

The alumnae had a rough time according to Leslie Christenson, class of 1990. "Only five alumnae came to play. I wish there had been more people," Christenson commented after the game. "I knew I would have fun. I just did not want to get sweaty!"

Spirits were high, and many players expressed that they were happy simply to play. Coach Cathy Baker said it was a "fun learning experience." She said she was happy with the game. "All I wanted to accomplish was running. I wasn't concerned with plays. They were not down yet...with [only] two days' practice."

"The team's spirit is better than ever this year," said junior Lesley Anderson. "We're a lot younger, and better skilled. It's going to be good [this year]."

"An event I wouldn't have missed for my life," commented alumna Marisa More.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DEC 13
Holiday Concert 7:30pm
DEC 14
Music Assembly
Boys' B-Ball 6pm
Freshman Dance 8pm
DEC 15
Hockey 11:15am U
DEC 17
Hockey 6:15pm JB, U
DEC 21
Pajama Day
Talent Show
DEC 24
Christmas Break
Happy Holidays!

DEC 28-9
Holiday Tourney
Boys/Girls 6/8pm
JAN 1
Happy New Year!
JAN 2
Boys' B-Ball 4:30pm F, JB, U
JAN 4
Boys' B-Ball 4:30pm F, JB, U
JAN 5
Hockey 11:15am U
Track 9am UNH
Swim Team 12pm UNH
JAN 7
Girls' B-Ball 6pm
F. B-Ball 4pm
Hockey 7pm JB

JAN 9
Hockey 8:30pm U
Early Wednesday
JAN 10
Hockey 6pm JB
F. B-Ball 3:30pm
JAN 11
Boys' B-Ball 6pm
JAN 12
Hockey 11:15am JB
Track 8pm
JAN 14
Hockey 7:30pm U
Girls' B-Ball 6pm
Hockey 6pm JB
JAN 15
F. B-Ball 4pm

JAN 16
Hockey 8:30pm U
JAN 18
Mid-Term Exams
JAN 19
Hockey 8:30 U
Track 6pm
JAN 21
MLK Day
JAN 22-4
Mid-Term Exams
(cont.)

OYSTER RIVER BOOSTER CLUB PLANS FOR WINTER OF 1990-91



Mrs. Poteet, Mrs. Weeks, and Mrs. Poole
selling sweatshirts and seat cushions

by Eric S. Ritvo

The Boosters Club is back again, and with the winter sport season here, it is becoming more visible.

The Boosters Club is an organization of parents whose primary role is to promote school spirit. The club tries to help out the Athletic Department as much as they can, whether it be through manpower or financial help.

The members of the Boosters Club help the sports teams. Said Ms. Shelley Weeks, "Those involved with the club are trying to help out wherever needed."

Some contributions of the Boosters Club include, running the concession stand at the mens' basketball games and sewing names on the back of the hockey team's jerseys.

The Haleys, both members of the Boosters Club, run the concession stand by setting it up, picking up the supplies, and cleaning it up at the end. Mrs. Debra Haley says about her involvement in the club, "(I do it) be-

cause our kids are involved with sports - to help support the teams."

The club does more than most know. The Boosters Club prints up the programs for basketball games and paid for the roster board in the gym. Season schedules of the teams are printed up and available in the office for anyone. They have purchased windscreens for the tennis courts and the blue all-weather jackets worn by the soccer team. The awards ceremony held each spring is another activity that the Boosters club is responsible for.

Dave Nichols, Athletic Department director, praises the Boosters Club. He states, "I think it is a positive support group." He continued by expressing that they were hardworking and generous.

The Athletic Department is the main beneficiary of the groups work. Said Mr. Nichols, "They try and pick up the extra things that

the department's budget can't. They are always asking what more they can do." He cited the case of windscreens as an example. The cost of windscreens was a one-time thing, but to put the screens in the budget would be inappropriate. He suggested to the club that windscreens would be a superb help, and they were supplied.

Mrs. Weeks conveyed, "The club is always open to suggestions of things we can do or provide."

Like all other organizations, the Boosters Club has to pay for its contributions.

This past fall, the Boosters Club had the ski and skate sale. The club asks people to bring in their used winter sports equipment, and then the club sells it for them. The club gets 25% of everything that is sold. Ms. Weeks commented on the sale by saying, "It is a good fundraiser and a service to the community." Currently, the club is considering a similar sale for spring and fall sports.

One of the annual fundraisers is the Boosters Club Tennis Tournament, held in the spring, the tournament is open to anyone and prizes are awarded.

Another source of income for the club is through donations. The club asks parents with children participating in athletics for donations, with \$15 for one child or \$20 for two.

The club is also trying to help out the parents of student athletes. They have purchased the gray, metal bleachers used for soccer and baseball games. To relieve the pain of sitting on flat bleachers, the club is selling cushions for \$6.50. These cushions are red, blue, and white with a paw print and Oyster River written on them.

Meetings are held

on the third Wednesday of each month. There are about fifteen active members who regularly attend these meetings. It is at these gatherings that the club discusses what more they can do to help out.

The Boosters Club is currently in the middle of a membership drive.

Mrs. Haley says, "Most of the parents involved now have children who are juniors and seniors. We would like to have some parents from whose kids are underclassmen."

Through this year, the Boosters Club is continuing its positive for all of the Oyster River athletic teams.



Senior Alex Collins and Junior Eric Ritvo battle it out in the semi-finals. Collins went on to become the tournament's eventual winner

TABLE-TENNIS TOURNAMENT

by Ben Hudson

On November fifth and sixth the gym contained between 65 and 75 O.R.H.S. students competing in the first round of the ping-pong tournament.

From November fifth to the thirteenth approximately 55 boys and 13 girls showed their table tennis talents in a single elimination tournament in which only one could be crowned champion. That one turned out to be the favored, Alex Collins.

The event was a joint effort between Athletic Director, Mr. Nichols and student council. "The space of time between fall and winter sports seemed to be empty. We (student council) merely came up with a temporary extra-curricular activity to fill the void," said student council advisor, Ms. Whitten.

The task of setting up the schedule was taken upon by Mr. Nichols who had the assistance of his four-year old son in determining "who-played-who." The schedule was set up in powers of two, due to the fact there were not enough students to make it a power of two, many students got byes in the first round," stated Nichols.

The semi-finals consisted of seniors Alex Collins and Chris Taube, as well as Juniors Eric Ritvo and

Nathan Weeks who commented, "The event helped me grow as a person."

The finals pit Chris against Alex after they defeated Nathan and Eric, respectively. Alex took the first game by six points. The second game had a similar score to the first, but this time Chris came up with a victory. The final tie-breaker started out even. At 11-11 tensions began getting high for both on-lookers and the players themselves. It was at this point Alex turned on the turbo and gained nine consecutive points, making it game point. Two points later Alex became champion ping-pong player at O.R. with final scores of 21-16 (Alex), 21-17 (Chris), 21-13 (Alex).

"This sort of event builds character in a person and it gets them off the street...I was honored when they (student council) presented me with the gold paddle, I just hope next year's tournament will bring out as much talent," commented the newly crowned champ.

In the remaining school year the student council will also be organizing the annual Clam Slam volleyball tournament. "We hope to organize a field day and/or a winterfest, however nothing is definite yet," explained Ms. Whitten.

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1990 ALUMNI GAME ATTRACTS 30 OLD-TIMERS BACK TO OR

by Chrissy Jackson

The boy's alumni won the basketball game 93-82 on Wednesday, November 21. The alumni outnumbered the varsity team's players by twenty-three to eleven.

"Players can return up to three years after they graduate," Coach Maynard explained. This was the last year of playing for the Championship team of three years ago. That team included players like Pat Casey, Jeff Barbour, Todd Bragdon, and the 1989 All American John Friermuth.

"Considering it was our third day, we played as well as expected. They had size, outside shooters, and ball handlers," Coach Maynard commented after the game. "Usually we have ten days, but the administration wanted to move the season back. I think they paid off."

"It was fun, our first game with this

big a crowd," said junior Scott Poteet. "It was a good learning experience playing with college guys, learning defense from them."

"We played well in the first, second and third, then gave up a bit. Our defense turned around," said senior Dave Madson. "I loved it, had great fun," commented senior Sam Poole.

Before the game Coach Maynard talked about the alumni. "It's great to see alumni coming back, but I wish they didn't have Mike Jackson and Pat Casey. Next year, because there are so many alumni, we want to have odd years playing even, and get even more people coming back and playing."

Dave Elwell, a 1988 graduate, said "How can you not come back to play? You get out on the floor and have fun. Who cares how you play?"



Evan Christenson concentrates on his foul shot while Alumni players Pat Duffu, Gunnar Olson and Dave Mangene wait for the rebound.

Vars. Hockey team members have high-hopes for 1990-1991 season

by Kevin Hahn

Currently Oyster River varsity hockey team's preseason record is one win, five losses and one tie.

At Dover High School's hockey jamboree Oyster River played against three different teams—each game being only twelve minutes long. The first game was against St. Thomas which Oyster River lost 1-4. The second 12 minute period was played against Somersworth and the Bobcats lost 2-1. The final game of the jamboree was between the Bobcats and Dover High. In this game Oyster River held their own tying the game 1-1.

The members of varsity hockey are confident about the upcoming season. "I think we'll be a force in the seacoast, and finish the season with a winning

record," said senior Chris Loughlin.

As confident as the varsity team members are of their upcoming season, they're equally confident of the younger members of the team. "Since the younger players have been playing together for such a long time, there's a unity between them," commented Mike Moriarty.

The Oyster River's varsity hockey team includes: seniors Lance Waterfield, Jon Roy, Chris Loughlin, Mike Moriarty, Toby Mautz, Scott Matseas, Blake Garrigan, and Mike Williams; junior Alex Roy; sophomores Owen Bruder, Eric Carney, Scott Troxell, John Hill, Dan Gault, and Darrin Miller; and freshmen Ed Priestley and Matt Blasik.

The varsity hockey team's first game of the season is on December 15.

"Athletes of the Month" Chosen

by Andrea Collins

On November eighth the October athletes of the month: Stefany Shaheen and Evan Wallman, were chosen. The September athletes of the month were Toby Mautz and Janice Philbrook. All candidates were chosen by the Athletic Council.

Oyster River High School's Athletic Council was founded in 1989 with the stated purpose of forming a viable link between the student athletes and the administration. The group was the "brain child" of Athletic Director David Nichols. Together he and Principal Anne Brown organized the council with three main objectives in mind: foremost it is a forum to discuss new policies, grievances, and issues concerning athletes, with the administration. It is also a link of direct input from the athletes to Mr. Nichols and, finally, the group is continuously working on promoting school spirit within the school and the community as a whole.

Originally, the group was formed by students whose names were suggested by coaches, teachers, and peers. However, this did not create a balance appropriate for the membership. The classes and teams were

not equally represented. This year, Nichols organized the council himself by choosing students from team rosters, keeping classes, sexes, and the number of representatives from each sport balanced.

Some of the topics that the Athletic Council has addressed this year are the newly proposed drug and alcohol policy for athletic participants, organizing a more successful pep rally and the possible formation of a ski club at Oyster River.

The group is also responsible for selecting the coveted Athlete of the Month award. They do this by

selecting the most outstanding athlete, male and female, from all the coach's recommendations. The coaches are allowed to nominate one athlete per month for this award, and the council will vote. This main idea developed by the council to promote student participation in athletics. However, the group hopes to take on other responsibilities in the future.

The Athletic Council is a fledgling organization with all the same problems of any new activity; however, Mr. Nichols is optimistic that it will eventually play a very active and important role in students lives.

Swim Team Preview

By Brian Killgore

Coach Mike Parratta and the rest of the Oyster River Swim Team will have to work to improve on last year's second place finish.

This year's team returns only one senior, Alexander Reyna. According to Reyna, lack of experience will be something to overcome in order to repeat last year's performance.

"We lost a lot to graduation," said Reyna. "It's the only senior on the team, so we have a lot of people who really haven't been

swimming that long."

The team does feature some experienced swimmers. Seniors Todd Whitford and junior All-American Larissa Harold are both members of Seacoast swim clubs. Combined with a nucleus of other sophomores and returning juniors, the team has a solid future.

"Right now, we're still finding out who's on the team and who isn't," said Reyna. "After that, we should do pretty well."

The swim team opens their season December 30, at Dover.

Project Teamwork Assembly at Oyster River gets a mixed student review

by John Waskiewicz

Former U.S. Olympic rowing team medalist Holly Metcalf and former Chicago Bulls All-Star Norm Van Lier spoke to a crowd of approximately 500 O.R. students and faculty on Monday, Dec. 3.

Topics covered by the Project Teamwork assembly ranged from sportsmanship and ethics to racism. The overall focus of the assembly was the importance of sportsmanship in sports today.

Principal Ann Draper Brown was pleased with the presentation but

added that she had "higher expectations". Brown felt that the message may have been more appropriate for a large, inner-city school, where problems that Van Lier cited such as kids killing for a certain type of shoe may exist. "I would liked to have heard more about fan behavior, what is appropriate vs. what is not and team unity," added Brown.

The physical education staff: Don Maynard, Pat Abbot and Barry Fitzpatrick had taken the initiative to

get the speakers here to O.R. Commented Fitzpatrick, "we were pleased with the discussion of subjects not widely thought of at O.R.," The P.E. staff felt that the assembly accomplished their goals which included emphasis on personal values, ethics and sportsmanship.

Students had mixed reactions toward the assembly. "Norm's message on the importance of academics for athletes would have been more appropriate at

large inner-city schools or prisons," commented senior Dave Madson, "not at a high school where athletes do as well as OR students not involved with sports." Madson cited the fact that 65% of OR fall athletes made the honor role.

Senior Steph Chasteen said, "OR is more academically oriented. Most people here don't look beyond the high school level to play competitive sports" in response to Van Lier's challenge to people who thought they would make it to the pros.

Overall, students preferred Van Lier's speech to Metcalf's. Commented senior Brendan Crill, "the crowd really listened." Faculty member Robert Byrnes acknowledged that the students had a valid criticism (that the speakers may not have understood their audience) but felt that Van Lier's message was important for everyone. Byrnes felt it was important for people to realize, "your success can be a personal success at the expense of others or a personal success in a contribution to the whole."

Continued

PARKING cont. from p.1

cil members monitoring the parking lot, stated that warnings have been the only punishment given out to violators so far. According to Cirillo, many violators have been creating problems, saying, "You won't really tow away my car." Junior Scott Poteet has violated the parking policy twice. Scott stated that, "there are not enough seniors to fill all the parking spaces. I feel it should be first come

first served for upper-classmen." He then adds, "I'm looking forward to next year, so I won't have to deal with the consequences of violating the parking policy."

Senior Scott Davis says, "As seniors we have paid our dues for 4 years and with 113 seniors occupying only 50 parking spaces, there is not room for Juniors and Sophomores."

Student Council members came up with the idea of making new

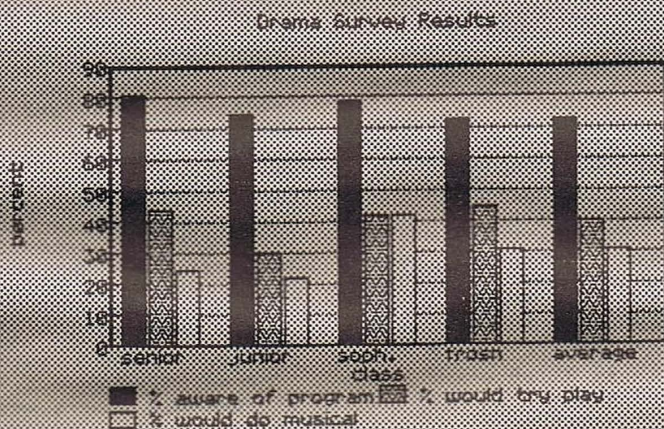
parking space lines to allow more cars to park in the lot. Many seniors and tuition students have been taking up more space than their car needs. Student Council agreed to make the lines one Saturday afternoon if the school will buy the paint. Assistant Principal for Student Services Ms. Winterbottom stated, "If student Council writes up a proposal and gives it to me, I will propose it at the next school board meeting."

DRAMA cont. from p.1

for lunch tables during elections.

Student participation "is at a definite low," commented Tappan. "The number of students auditioning at the last two productions (42 for 25 parts for 'Cheaper by the Dozen' and only 35, when more were needed, for last year's spring musical 'Candide') has dropped considerably from last year's (65 for 20 parts in 'Murder at the Hollow' and 54 for 25 roles in 'J.B.'). Senior Chris Taube feels that "a few years ago, students showed a lot of interest in school plays. Today, a lot of students think that acting isn't the 'coolest' thing to do."

Statistics obtained from a recent survey suggest that students have mixed feelings about the drama program. 72% of students know there is a drama program in the school that has three productions a year, the average O.R. student has seen 1.6 productions, and feels the quality of the productions averages, on a scale of 1 to 10, a 7.5. When asked if they felt the drama program has increased, declined or remained the same in popularity with the student body



over the last few years, 28% felt it had increased, 38% felt it had declined, and 34% felt it had remained the same. On average, 40% of O.R. students said they would audition for a play, while only 31% would try a musical. Reasons why students wouldn't audition ranged from "stage fright" and "not enough time with sports and homework" to people that feel "it seems a certain group of kids tries out for plays," as senior Marie Roy stated, and therefore wouldn't "fit in." Other students are just dissatisfied with the program and the people in it. Senior Lance Waterfield, a veteran actor at O.R.H., commented, "We've already done most of the good plays and musicals." Junior

Glen Watt thinks that "most of the major actors and singers have graduated."

Student suggestions on how to improve the drama program range from the senior class's "better lighting, more publicity, and have drama students bring their friends" to junior comments "no doubt other schools value their drama programs more than we do" and from Eric Beck "we need more comfortable seating and a bigger area" to the sophomore class's comments of "more advertisement outside of school" and "possibly getting credit for doing a play" to the freshman suggestions of "showing a preview at the Elementary School" and "more accessibility to freshmen."

YEAR ROUND cont. from P. 4

assigned. It gives the students a complete break from the stressful school environment. I can guarantee unless a rule was made against it, there would be plenty of tea-

chers who would assign plenty of homework over the breaks between quarters. This really does not give students the true two months of summer they would get

under the standard schedule.

There are many other places other than school where students can or should learn. The summer vacation gives them a long, homework-free chance to help their families and themselves. Remember: Students go to school to benefit their lives, not to have it become their lives.



POTEET cont. from p.10

Scott's personality in everyday life is much different than when he is playing sports. He is a laid back, bashful, modest person in his day to day activities. However, when he plays sports he is competitive, aggressive, and often is a tempered competitor. This

attitude while playing sports helps Scott push himself to the top.

Poteet didn't always know he had potential to be a cross country state champion and when asked why he started, he stopped to think then hesitantly said, "So I could get in shape for basketball."

As Poteet sits in the locker room on a Monday afternoon you can see that he doesn't have the physical appearance that a typical athlete has. He doesn't have the advantage of the great athlete who can sit around and on race day come out and win. He must achieve his success through hard work. Poteet runs long distances on Monday and Tuesday followed by short sprints on Wednesday and short runs on Thursday and Friday in preparation for his big New England meet on Saturday. Taking off for his run, Scott wants to get as prepared as possible, but he doesn't want to go out too hard for

this will hurt him rather than help him. Poteet says, "The training aspect of cross country is very important and in the past 3 weeks I have been training harder and the results have improved." He feels strong, and is optimistic about his ability to compete with New England's best runners and hopes to finish in the top 25. Scott is cautious, however not wanting to put too much pressure on himself.

All athletes know that no matter how much work you put into something, you are going to have your bad days. This is what happened to Poteet at the New England meet. Inexperience hurt him as he got too caught up with what place he was going to come in. He did not run the kind of race he likes to and the result was a 27th place finish. However, as Poteet has the opportunity to run in the big races he will continue to gain the experience needed to do well.

As Scott knows well, tough competition pushes you and helps you reach further and discover potential you didn't realize you had. This is what enabled Poteet to be victorious in the New Hampshire meet and this should enable him to continue his running career through college.

SCHOOL cont. from p.1

not think the plan is desirable because I personally want to go to summer music camp and work and this program would preclude this."

Freshman Chris Weisman said, "this would be a great addition to our school. It would relieve a lot of stress, but I feel a vote among the students should be required."

Senior Nathan LaPierre took a different perspective in saying, "during the summer vacation I feel you can learn a lot by having a job. It makes

you more independent and you are able to be someone different from

who you are during the school year."

The year-round school concept has been experimented with and abandoned in various locations over the past 90 years. No great jump in achievement of students has been shown in such a program according to George Packard in his study "Ending the Endless Summer," published in "The Spectator" in July of 1990. However the possibilities in the author's view were still "promising."

John Powers was tentative in his response to the plan for year-round school. "It is premature for me to comment until a study has been done that is unique to Oyster River."

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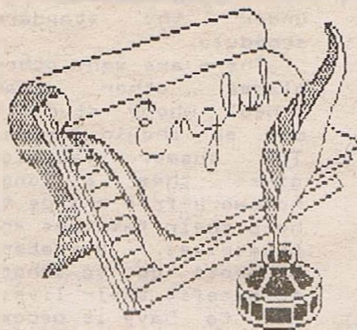
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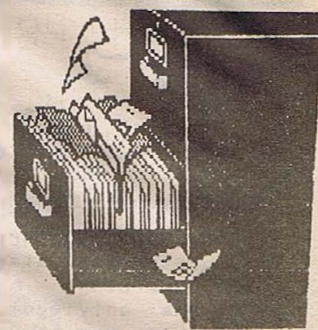
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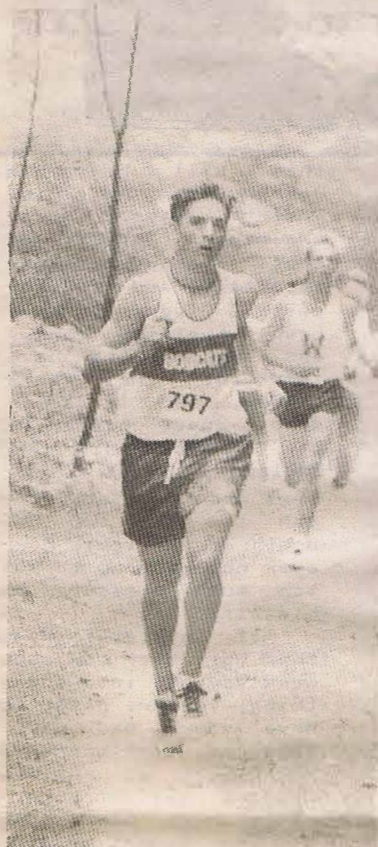
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FEATURES



Poteet Wins State Cross Country Championship



by Gabe Wallman

The bus made it to its destination at Manchester's Derryfield Park. Out piled members of the Oyster River boys' and girls' cross country teams. One of those people was junior Scott Poteet. At this time he had no idea he was about to win his first meet ever at the 42nd annual New Hampshire Cross Country Meet of Champions.

As the runners took their spots at the starting line, Poteet had a completely different outlook on this race. "In the other races there was usually the pressure of doing very well and I would choke, but in this race, since there were so many good runners, there wasn't the pressure of winning and I was just out there doing the best I could."

Scott is a great example of what hard work does for you. Whether it be with his running,

or playing basketball he continually works hard knowing what he needs to do in order to get to the top.

Throughout the 3.1 mile race Poteet was just trying to keep contact with the leaders. It wasn't until midway through the race that he realized that he had a chance to win, when he was among the top 4 runners. At that

point Poteet felt that he was going too fast and had doubts of competing with such strong competition.

As the race was in its final stages, Poteet and Nashua's Phil Greenwood switched the lead several times. The final 1/4 mile consisted of a long hill followed by a sprint to the finish line. At the hill Greenwood passed Poteet for the final time. With his legs getting weary he seriously considered quitting. On that, he later commented, "In previous races I'd settle for

less than what I was capable of and I'd start to fall behind" then continued humbly, "I put too much time and effort into the meet to quit." As the adrenalin began to pump, Poteet could sense the victory. Greenwood, however, had other thoughts as he and Poteet were running neck and neck. Poteet showed his determination as he lunged at the tape to narrowly defeat Greenwood for his first career victory although they both had a time of 16 minutes and 32 seconds. This was a far cry from the week before when he finished 45 seconds slower on that same course. Poteet said, "The much improved time is because there were so many quality runners pushing him."

So why did he choose the New Hampshire Meet of Champions to win his first cross country meet? Boys' cross country coach Bob Byrnes

says, "Everything was right for this race. He knew he was fit enough. He knew he was talented enough. He had the confidence and motivation needed. All these things came together to produce the big victory." Byrnes continued in saying that Poteet had the attitude of a winner. He said, "In the class 'I' meet the week before when he placed third his shoelace came untied and he had a pain in his side. Instead of using these as excuses on why he didn't do well he uses it as reasons why he will do better next time."

The strong competition brought the best out of Poteet and pushed him rather than discouraged him to fall behind. Unlike other races with small crowds, this race had a big crowd which pumped him up.

POTEET cont. on p.9

STUDENT COUNCIL PLANS BIG WINTER

by Jessica Surdam

The purpose of the ORHS student council is to serve as a liaison between the student body and the school board and between the school and the community, according to the council's vice president Jen Thompson.

The link between the school board and student council is member Sarah Whitten. She attends the school board meetings and presents the ideas of the council to them then brings their feedback to the council. As for the link between the school and the community, stu-

dent council sponsored a food drive at the Alumni games November 21st. They gave the canned goods to My Friend's Place in Dover. The council is going to continue the drive in homerooms, the week before Christmas vacation, according to President Amy Troxell.

Another purpose that they serve is to bring the students together as a school, and to promote school spirit. "We like to organize things outside of schoolwork for the students to enjoy," says sophomore member Nahanni Rous. They or-

ganize things like the ping pong tournament, the annual Sadie Hawkins Dance, which is scheduled for January 12th at the MUB this year, the hypnotist show on December 4th, and Costume Day, which was a real success, according to sophomore Nicole Bellabona. "It was fabulous! It was a fun day and no one took it out of bounds," she says.

Student council also plans to have a snowfest this winter. "We are planning it so that there will be plenty to do even if there is no snow," says Thompson. There will be things

like a snow sculpture contest if there is snow, but also things like a tug of war and a lip sync contest in case of no snow, according to Troxell.

They may have the hypnotist back during the snowfest or in the spring, according to Troxell. The Clam Slam, a volleyball tournament, is also being planned for the spring. The council also organized a bonfire committee to put together a safe and well-organized plan to present to the school administration, "but nothing has materialized," says Thompson. "We probably won't have one," says the advisor Mrs. Whitten.

Student council members are President Amy Troxell, Vice President Jennifer Thompson, Treasurer Eric Ritvo, Corresponding Secretary Christine Davenport, Recording Secretary Dean Kennedy, School Board representative Sarah Whitten, and class representatives John Cirillo, Toby Mautz, Angie Twombly, Brigid Murray, Kevin Haley, Chuck Bryon, Nahanni Rous, Nicole Bellabona, Hunt Howell, Amanda McAuley, and Tammie Spenser.

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WHAT HAPPENED TO THE ORHS SKI TEAM?

by Joshua Hodsdon

Three weeks ago a proposal by the athletic council was submitted for a new ski club at ORHS. The proposal was held up because of the lack of a teacher supervisor to go along on the trips.

Sophomore John Hill, a member of the athletic council, said, "The proposal is moving slowly because no one really knows how to get things going." Its been ten years since ORHS has had anything to do with organized skiing.

The reason the team was dropped was due to poor snow, cancelled meets and lack of interest.

"Things just never got going," reads the passage in the 1980 yearbook.

One school that has had no problems getting things going is Spaulding High School.

They just started dryland training on Nov. 29 for their new ski team. Their athletic director, Hugo Bolin, said that the proposal came from the

parents of one of the students. "I took a poll to see if the interest was there, and it was, so now we have a ski team."

Most of Spaulding's funding will come from a booster club set up especially for the team.

"They have already held a bake sale and a fashion show to support the team," said Mr. Bolin.

When asked about the cost to the school to run a ski team he said, "The only expense to the school besides hiring a coach would be a \$300 fee for hosting one home meet (every team must host one meet each season) and the cost of helmets and bibs for the racers. The racers themselves provide the equipment and the ski passes, which are at a discount. It really does not cost the school a lot."

Since the regular season meets are usually held at 9:00 a.m. Spaulding was forced to rearrange the schedule. They got together with

other teams in their class and moved the meets to 3:30 p.m.. The teams involved are: Dover, Central, West, Trinity, and Memorial.

Since Spaulding put their team together so fast, just this season, they still have yet to decide where to practice. The two choices are King Pine and Gunstock. The deciding factor will be what mountain has the best available lighted slope for the racers.

Mr. Bolin is optimistic about his relatively green team, "We may not have the experience but we have a great bunch of kids and they are all ready to give it their best shot and have some fun."

Oyster River gave it their best shot in 1972 and came home with the State Championship, under the coaching of Len Edgington.

In 1990, without a supervisor, the proposal for a ski club will remain off the list of ORHS priorities, and the students will remain off the slopes.

PRIVACY cont. from p. 4

coming to your closed-minded and unsupported conclusion before analyzing all the facts.

The point I'm trying to make is just because we're students doesn't mean we don't have rights. All my life I have been told to think before I act but right now that's starting to sound like hypocritical nonsense. Perhaps some "adults" need to look at how their actions might affect innocent students before invading their communal privacy. I close the door to the bathroom at my house—do you?

MAILBOXES cont. from p. 4 the other hand, have found the mailboxes helpful by keeping in touch with their teachers (oh boy), but that is a minority of the students. That minority being the Highest Honor students.

"I don't get mail unless I write to myself," said Josh Hodsdon. Judging by the seriousness of the seniors' attitudes about their mailboxes, it could be said that they don't find much use in their newfound, \$260 privilege. Could it be that for the first time in Ms. Brown's administrative period that O.R. has made a mistake

TRACK cont. from p. 5

pared for their first meet, which is at home, with the boys' team, on Saturday, December 22.

"The one problem that the girls' team faces is the lack of sprinters," added Chas-teen. "It seems as if we're all distance runners."

"I'm trying to learn shotput," said newcomer Amy Ulrich. She's glad to be learning it, because she's heard that

there has been trouble filling spots for different events of girls' track in the past.

But the boys' events are mostly all covered, according to Crill. "Brandon Amman's doing shotput, Russell Warren and I are running distance, Kyle Krouse is jumping hurdles, and Roberto Acosta's running sprints, to name a few," he said. "Both teams are looking good."

cont. from pg. 12

could cause unwanted criticism. Creativity, and self confidence could boost you to find the wealth of your ideas

among certain social groups. Though beware not to be too understanding, enemies could come. Don't tip the scales.



Scorpio - (Oct. 23 to Nov. 23 The Scorpion) You might get stung this month by a sudden loss. But don't worry your overwhelming willpower will conquer that vindictive force that's bringing you down. The emotions you feel are very strong, but once channeled you could reach that impossible aim. Just watch your back. It could get vicious.

Libra - (Sept. 23 to Oct. 23 The Scales) This month you may be feeling a bit green, not due to the Christmas season. You will feel the need to form a relationship with someone...but beware of emeralds, they could lead to some interesting "proposals." Saturn is your exaltation which could lead to an interesting circulation



WORK cont. from p. 12

a D because I was working 20 hours a week. I'm afraid that my chances of getting into college will be lessened because of this."

The clock ticks just past 11:20 and the student walks through the door, throws his coat on the couch, and slowly makes his way up the stairs to his bedroom. He grasps his American Lit. notebook off his bookshelf and throws it on to his desk. He sits down, grabs a pen, and opens the notebook pre-

paring to write his paper. As he flips through the pages looking for a clean one, he notices a completed paper on the topic due for tomorrow. He remembers, to his delight, that he finished the paper during that less-than-lively class discussion. He closes the notebook and tosses it in the corner of the room where the rest of his books are piled. He crawls into bed thinking about how good it will be to get a good night's sleep and as he dozes off, he

dreams of tossing the skis into the trunk, filling the tank and heading up to the mountains for a day of skiing this Sunday.



GIRLS' B-BALL cont. from p. 5

team rather than a bunch of individuals." Senior Dawn Ellyn Bosquin added, "Coach has a lot of creative plays that we are using."

Coach Baker felt there are several things that the team must do in order to have a successful season. She said, "The

seniors must take over leadership, and everyone has to realize their roles." She feels the teams they will have the most trouble with are Pembroke, Goffstown, and Sommersworth.

The Bobcats have a blend of players with varsity experience and young talent. The team consists of seniors Dawn Ellyn Bosquin, Rosemary Boone, Brenda

Worden, Sue Varholy, Elaine Courtemanche, Lori Slippy, juniors Julie Walsh, Sarah Heath, Leslie Anderson, and sophomores Holly MacKay, Stefany Shaheen, and Jen Friel.

O.R. has two away games against tough competition coming up as they play Sommersworth on December 19 followed by Goffstown on the 21st.



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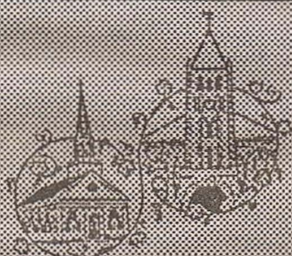
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Go Out and Earn It

by Scott Davis
Waiters and waitresses are running frantically, new orders in, old orders out. Cooks are preparing eight dinners at a time. It is on the busiest nights at the Durham Restaurant and the bus people are piling bucket after bucket of dirty dishes. A high school student of about sixteen years stands by the dishwasher arranging the platters, cups and silverware as fast as he can. The frustrated manager yells for him to quicken the pace but he does not hear. He stands there, unresponsive, thinking to himself. He won't get home until at least 11:15 and he still has an American Lit. paper to write. He gazes around slowly and wonders if this job is really worth it.

With a little over fifty percent of juniors and seniors currently employed and some working as many as 37 hours a week or travelling as far as 70 miles to work, the above scene can be a reality. The result of surveying 143 juniors and seniors, was that all students holding jobs worked an average of 15 hours per week. Those who felt that their job interfered with school, sports and activities were in the 21% minority who worked in excess of 15 hours each week. Most students felt that their jobs inflicted only a minimum amount of interference in their daily routines.

Why do students work if it interferes with their life? There will be plenty of time to work after school is completed. The obvious reason is money. But why do they need money? Cars. Putting gas in a car alone costs about \$10.00 a week and that figure is increasing steadily as the price of gas. Adding insurance payments can add another \$50 - \$200 each month. And if you are making payments on the

car you own whether to the bank or parents, the bills are even more extensive. Junior Ben Hudson stated "I work to get money, so I can spend money. And spending money gives me more freedom." Other reasons for working may include money for lunch, going out on weekends, college or just to save for something expensive like a new pair of skis or a car.

Is the employed student at a disadvantage? Math teacher, Ms. Szot, said, "I think students lose out on leadership, academic, social, and athletic opportunities." Some say that working students are often tired and have lower grades than they could be achieving otherwise. The survey suggests that this only applies to students putting in long hours after school or working most of a weekend.

Others say that working students learn to budget their time and money. Some complete assignments early, even if done during class, rather than putting them off to the last minute. They also pick up budgeting skills by learning how much money to allocate each week for expenses. Mrs. Tagliaferro stated that "the primary job of a student is their academic commitment, but if they choose to work a moderate number of hours rather than participating in extra-curricular activities and keep up their academics then I don't see it as a problem."

So are employed students at a disadvantage? In most cases, no. If a student is working a few hours a week for gas money or pocket change then it might be looked upon as an advantage, but there are exceptions. Senior Nathan Lapierre remarked on his experience. "I went from having a B+ average to getting

WORK cont. on pg. 11

Check the stars to find out what the future holds

by Susan Mertens
and Tim Myers



Sagittarius (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21): The Centaur. If you own a car be wary of flying bricks. A broken wheel could result in the loss of a Sagittarius's important hearing and speech. Keep your naturally analytical mind, but be careful to use non-trustworthy criticism only. Unnecessary insults will only result in angry feelings and a bloody nose and this is futile. Fortunately, Mercury has spun into a parabolic curve, so any important sewing can be done this week.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 to Jan. 21): The Goat. This month you may feel the need to succeed. Mars is your exaltation which could lead to power and success. But if you're not cautious, it could lead to that incredible "F". So try to be organized and study in your mental capacity or at least until you feel weak in the knees. Don't try to be a perfectionist, though, it's all right to make mistakes. Your ambition might make you the target of the cold jealousy of other people. So take caution.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): The Waterbearer. Go with the flow, but only to a point. You will be asked by your friends to try something new on yourself. Be wary of people selling bargains or deals too good to be true. They probably are. This sounds bad, but this is the week to make a relationship with that special Libra friend. Friendship will explode into passion, brightening both of your lives.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20): The Fish. Something's fishy here. Due to a chemical imbalance in the town's water (and water being of utmost importance to Pisces), your small intestine will ail you terribly. To be a truly happy Pisces, keep your feet very clean. Parents and teachers will cause you to be under a great deal of stress. Let your feelings out. Break a thing or two. Be free and love your siblings!



Aries (Mar. 21 - Apr. 19): The Ram. Mars and the sun have lined up. Liking Mars and being the ram that you are, you will look at this as an opportunity to go on an adventure. There will be sand. There will be palm trees. And there will be Arabs in white sheets shouting "Death to America!" and "Free Saddam's babies!" Be conscious of danger, but express yourself as well. Remember: the quickest way from point A to point B is to go to point C instead.



Taurus (Apr. 20 - May 20): The Bull. Due to the swelling of the moon (crucial to a Taurus' existence) start yourself to your full potential. Eat lots of steamed vegetables, but stay away from complex carbohydrates and leather shoes. If siblings bother you, follow your instincts by driving them to a place very far away and leaving them there.



Gemini (May 21 - Jun. 20): The Twins. An identical presence will bother you endlessly

this week. This is due to the North Node (which is important to all Gemini) becoming unaligned with the sun. Wear bright orange clothing and lots of garlic. Drink plenty of Gemini's important water and avoid talking to truck drivers named Herb. If these instructions are followed, prosperity will follow. And be happy! This is your week to eat leafy greens!



Cancer (Jun. 21 to Jul. 22): The Crab. You may tend to be a little crabby this month due to the fact that you feel your emotions are on a roller coaster. But don't despair, the maternal urges you have contradict your instinctive mind. Just open up that communication barrier with your loved ones and you could reach that unconscious dream.



Leo (Jul. 23 to Aug. 22): The Lion. Be ready to roar this month. Social climbing is on the rise, but beware of nobility or you will take the plunge into the fire. You could be burned. Wearing yellow might give you the self-conscious pleasure but stay away from indigo. It totally contrasts with your prestige. Mercury is in its eighth parabola, so eat plenty of beef. Though try to avoid those beans! You don't want to scare away that certain Aries.



Virgo (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): The Virgin. This month you will try to arrive for Perfection. But try not to discriminate against the less fortunate. Your thirst for knowledge is being controlled by Mercury which is in the 5th house and con. on pg. 11.

Chris Taube picks top 10 Movies to watch with a date for a romantic evening

by Christopher B. Taube

There always seem to be lists of the top ten movies of all time or the most popular, but I have never found a list of good date movies. The following is a list compiled of the top ten date movies of the eighties with a rating system and about which date you should watch them on. This list in no way insures that your date will be a great success, but it could get it off to a great start. The following movies have also been tested by my colleagues and have shown a great rate of success (of course success is a relative term and should not be taken with any sexual connotations):

1) 9 1/2 Weeks ****

This is a highly sensual movie with a few explicit scenes and should be watched with caution and should be no means be watched on the first date. This should be watched when you are very comfortable with your date.

2) Pretty Woman ****

Without a doubt this is one of the biggest Cinderella stories of this decade with a comical and romantic twist that makes it a great idea for the first date. Also, the fact that Julia Roberts, one of the most beautiful actresses of our time, stars in it makes it an added plus. For all of you money-makers who want a role model, Richard Gere is the

man to watch in this film (of course money means nothing to me!)

3) Ghost ****

The fact that Patrick Swayze is in the film does wonders to get the girls attention, but besides that it is a sappy love story that will leave you with a smile on your face even if it is very contrived.

4) Say Anything ****

A Romeo and Juliet type love story that says a lot about relationships and love. This could be watched on any date and is a must see.

5) Wild Orchid ****

A movie that is almost a sequel to 9 1/2 Weeks that is very powerful. This too should be watched with caution, because at times it may

be suggestive.

6) Dad *** 1/2

This is a truly heart-warming story of a son who takes care of his elderly father whose wife has just died. The father becomes independent and learns to take care of himself. It is a movie that really reaches out to the audience, and, at the end, might even bring a tear to your eyes.

7) Nightmare On Elm Street (I) ***

It seems that it is inevitable to have at least one gory horror movie and this one works great. It is amusing as well as scary and will give you another opportunity to snuggle-up on the first date.

8) The Little Mermaid

*** So what? It is in fact a rated "G" animated film that was intended for little kids, but it is a cute and entertaining love story that, like Pretty Woman, will leave you happy at end.

9) Top Gun *** To be honest I did not like this movie, but then again I do not like Tom Cruise. This is a high-powered, run-and-gun movie with passionate scenes between Tom Cruise and Kelly McGillis.

10) This space is left open to any movie playing at the Strand in Dover, because you will not have to take out a student loan to see a movie (only \$3.50). The popcorn is not bad either.